

## Spray Schedule for Currants and Gooseberries

The chief troubles affecting currants and gooseberries which can be controlled by spraying are as follows:

Plant lice (aphids): Small, soft bodied, sucking insects, feeding on the lower surfaces of the leaves, which are often much distorted or curled and reddened by this insect. These insects must be controlled before they curl the leaves, since it is hard to reach them when they are sheltered in the curled foliage.

Currant worms: Small green worms appearing shortly after the leaves unfold and destroying the foliage by eating the leaves inward from the edges.

Leaf spots: Found most commonly on the red or white currant and gooseberry, and appearing as small, brown, dead spots in the leaf tissue. If the spots are numerous the leaves may turn yellow or be cast off early in the season.

Mildew: Not a very common disease. The mildew fungus forms a felt-like or cobwebby growth on the surface of the leaves.

### SPRAY SCHEDULE

The following spray schedule will in most cases be effective in control of these diseases and insects:

(1) Spray thoroughly just before the flower clusters open, using lime-sulfur 1 to 40, to which has been added nicotine sulfate (Black Leaf 40) at the rate of one-half pint to 50 gallons (two teaspoonfuls to one gallon), and arsenate of lead, two pounds per 50 gallons (about one ounce, or 10 level teaspoonfuls, per gallon).

(2) Repeat with the above as soon as the fruit is set. Do not use arsenate of lead again until the fruit is removed. If currant worms are troublesome in the fruit season use fresh hellebore as a dust, mixing one pound of the hellebore with five pounds of hydrated lime.

(3) No further applications may be needed for the season. If leaf spot appears later in the summer or currant worms develop, one or two additional applications of lime-sulfur and arsenate of lead may be necessary.

### OTHER CURRANT AND GOOSEBERRY TROUBLES

White pine blister rust may be present in August and September, in the form of orange pustules on the under surfaces of the leaves. Spraying is of little value for this disease (See Bulletin 452).

Currant cane borers: The grub-like larvae of this insect burrow into the pith of the canes and often cause the canes to wilt and die. The only useful method of dealing with these pests is to prune off and burn all affected canes in the early spring, at which time they are easily detected by their sickly small foliage.

San Jose Scale: This scale insect is very small and may occur, unnoticed, on currants in large numbers. San Jose Scale is controlled by a spray of lime-sulfur diluted one to eight with water and applied in the dormant season. Commercial spray oils may be substituted for lime-sulfur and applied on the dormant canes. Dilute these oils as directed on the containers in which they are purchased. Do not use dormant sprays when the temperature is below or close to freezing.